

Appl. No. : 10/825,230
Filed : April 16, 2004

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 were pending in this application. Claims 14-24 are withdrawn herein.

Election/Restriction

The Examiner stated that the claims are directed to the following distinct inventions:

Group I: Claims 1-13, drawn to a process, classified in class 208, subclass 39.

Group II: Claims 14-24, drawn to an apparatus, classified in class 422, subclass 198.

Applicants note that, in fact, Claims 1-13 are drawn to an *apparatus*, whereas Claims 14-24 are drawn to a *process*.

Applicants hereby elect Group I claims (i.e., Claims 1-13). Claim 14 has been amended so as to depend from Claim 1. The remaining nonelected claims all ultimately depend from Claim 14. Accordingly, upon the allowance of Claim 1, rejoinder of Claims 14-24 to the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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